

Application Serial No.: 10/720,126  
Reply to Office Action dated January 9, 2006,  
and the Advisory Action dated April 19, 2006

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor comprising:

an engine cover;

an engine disposed inside the engine cover and comprising a crankcase, a cylinder block and a cylinder head, which are operatively connected to each other in a horizontal direction in the engine cover;

a throttle body disposed in front of the crankcase;

an intake manifold extending from the throttle body to an intake port formed on the cylinder head and connected thereto, said intake manifold having a shape curved along an inner surface of the engine cover of the outboard motor and having a plurality of intake pipes in a vertical arrangement on a side of the engine;

an intake passage connected to the throttle body on an upstream side thereof; and

an intake duct connected to an upstream side of the intake passage and disposed in a space formed between a side surface of the engine and the intake manifold.

13. (Previously Presented) An outboard motor according to claim 12, further comprising a fuel injector unit disposed in the space formed between the side surface of the engine and the intake manifold nearer a side of the crankcase than a side of the intake duct.

14. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor according to claim 12, wherein the intake duct is provided with an air inlet formed at a ~~downstream~~ lower end side ~~end~~ of the intake duct in a vertical arrangement thereof.

Application Serial No.: 10/720,126  
Reply to Office Action dated January 9, 2006,  
and the Advisory Action dated April 19, 2006

15. (Previously Presented) An outboard motor according to claim 14, wherein the air inlet formed on the intake duct is positioned above a lowermost one of the intake pipes.

16. (Canceled)